

## **In the Specification**

Please amend the specification as set forth below.

At page 1, prior to line 2, insert the heading and subheading --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION--.

At page 1, prior to line 4, insert the subheading --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART--.

At page 1, prior to line 20, insert the heading --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

At page 3, prior to line 18, insert the heading --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

At page 4, prior to line 1, insert the heading --DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 4 as follows.

The shoe 10 or footwear item for racket sports according to the invention shown in perspective in Figure 1 is a shoe more

particularly intended to be used when ~~practising~~ practicing sports such as tennis, squash or badminton, i.e. sports for which the player uses a racket.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 6 of page 6 as follows.

This groove 9 thus allows an elastic deformation of the return plate 3, along an axis substantially normal with respect to the longitudinal axis L and merged with ~~[[said]]~~ the groove 9.